



## State of Tennessee

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 299

By Representatives Hurley, Ragan

and

Senators McNally, Woodson, Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge upon the celebration of its Sixty-fifth Anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should specially recognize those exemplary clubs and organizations that are comprised of concerned citizens who are dedicated to improving the quality of life in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge is one such estimable organization that will be celebrating its Sixty-fifth Anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, a non-partisan political organization, the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, this admirable organization traces its rich history back to February 14, 1920. When passage of the Nineteenth Amendment appeared to be imminent, members of the National American Woman Suffrage Association met to form the League of Women Voters of the United States in an effort to finish the fight and end all discrimination against women; and

WHEREAS, members of the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge are also members of the Tennessee League of Women Voters, which held their first meeting on May 18, 1920, at the State Capitol in Nashville and, throughout their two-day meeting, decided to make Tennessee the thirty-sixth state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; and

WHEREAS, their dreams were realized on August 18, 1920, when the Tennessee General Assembly, by a one-vote margin, voted to finally pass the proposed amendment and give women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 1920s the Tennessee League of Women Voters held citizenship schools and pushed for specific legislation to benefit women and children; and

WHEREAS, at their convention of 1936, these remarkable women adopted as their major program item the abolition of the poll tax as a voting prerequisite; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to its original mission of making democracy work for all citizens, the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge furnishes the public with unbiased, non-partisan information about elections, the voting process, and a variety of issues; and

WHEREAS, these remarkable citizens also work assiduously to influence public policy through advocacy, campaigning for a variety of important causes close to the hearts of Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, because of its longstanding non-partisan and unbiased approach to educating voters and reforming governmental systems, the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge is a well-known and highly-credible voice on reforms that affect the public; and

WHEREAS, the members of this laudable organization are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they should be especially recognized; now, therefore,

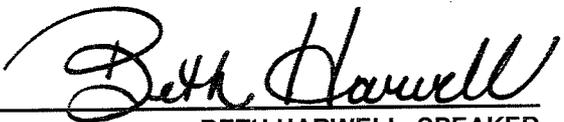
**HJR 299**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the members of the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge in celebrating the organization's Sixty-fifth Anniversary, commend them for their distinguished record of service to their community, this State, and our Nation, and wish them much continued success in their future endeavors.

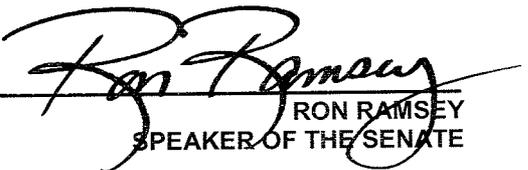
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: APRIL 21, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 2nd day of May 2011



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR